

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
PIKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
August 13, 2008  
9:00 AM**

The Pike County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Monthly Meeting on Wednesday, August 13, 2008 at 9:00 am in the Pike County Commissioners Meeting Room, Zebulon, Georgia. Members present were presiding Chairman Steve Fry, Commissioner Tommy Powers, Commissioner Jake Garner, Commissioner Parrish Swift and Commissioner Roosevelt Willis. Also in attendance were County Attorney Rob Morton and County Manager Steve Marro. (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1(e) (2))

**CHAIRMAN FRY CALLED THE PIKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING TO ORDER AND ASKED EVERYONE TO JOIN HIM IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG.**

**CHAIRMAN FRY CALLED FOR APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA PURSUANT TO O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1(e) (1)**

The agenda was amended as follows:

Add Dr. Duncan to New Business

Add the Pike Historic Preservation to discuss a project at the Whiskey Barn to New Business

Add Executive Session-Pending Litigation after public comment.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Swift made the motion to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Willis seconded the motion. 4-0 vote.

**CHAIRMAN FRY CALLED FOR APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2008 AT 6:30 PM PURSUANT TO O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1(e) (2)**

**MOTION**

Commissioner Powers made the motion to approve the Regular Monthly Meeting minutes held July 29, 2008 as corrected. Commissioner Willis seconded the motion. 4-0 vote.

**CHAIRMAN FRY CALLED FOR REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS, DEPARTMENTS AND COMMITTEES-MONTHLY REPORTS SUBMITTED FROM COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, BOARDS AND AUTHORITIES**

Mr. Marro stated that a new revenue sheet was handed out for the Planning and Development department showing the figures for the complete fiscal year as opposed to the previous report that just listed November to current.

Commissioner Willis said that according to the reports, the building permits in April were \$8,607.75 and impact fees were \$28,849.80. For July, the building permit amount went up but the impact fee amount came down. Chairman Fry said that could be due to the difference between commercial and residential. Chairman Fry asked Mark Whitley about this and he said that it could be due to the different types of permitting that came in. County Manager Marro said that most of the permits that are done do not require impact fees. Impact fees, according to Mr. Marro, are only on new houses.

## **MOTION**

Commissioner Swift made the motion to accept to reports from County Departments and County Authorities as submitted. Commissioner Willis seconded the motion. 4-0 vote.

## **CHAIRMAN FRY CALLED FOR REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS, DEPARTMENTS AND COMMITTEES-COUNTY MANAGER REPORT**

Mr. Marro had an update on the signage and striping of Hwy. 362. Mr. Marro and Todd Goolsby, Public Works Director, met with representatives of the DOT in Thomaston. According to the DOT, changing the signage showing the right turn and left turn going into 362 West Place will not be a problem. The striping request will have to go back through the DOT Transportation Operations department but they thought this wouldn't be a problem either.

Next, Mr. Marro said that the State grant process has changed. The county now has to do all of the research prior to a request being submitted to the DOT. Mr. Marro said that this diminishes the DOT's responsibility and that this is bad for smaller counties. The county must do all of the engineering. He also mentioned that the LARP really hasn't changed.

Next, Mr. Marro stated that the county can't get a quote from ACCG on the fire stations without an inventory from all fire stations.

Mr. Marro then said that he contacted the Department of Corrections regarding using a work crew on the ADA upgrades and said that this is a nightmare. It will be months before the county will know if a crew will be available or not.

Mr. Marro then said that he has been approached again by the Trust for Public Lands regarding the purchase of 160 acres of land off of Bethany Church Road. The land trust represents the land owner, a paper company, who is liquidating property all up and down the southeast.

## **CHAIRMAN FRY CALLED FOR REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS, DEPARTMENT AND COMMITTEES-COMMISSIONERS REPORT**

**District 1-** Commissioner Willis questioned the bills from Mark Whitley. He said that three bills had been received at a time and thought that the direction was that the county would receive one bill per week. Mr. Whitley said that two bills had been submitted together and the third was the resubmission of a previous bill. Commissioner Willis asked if it would be a problem to receive a bill each week. Mr. Whitley said that a bill would be submitted every Friday.

**District 2-** Commissioner Swift said that he noticed in the monthly reports of the Tax Assessor's office, a letter from Mallory and Trice regarding the services rendered by Reese and Associates on the assessments. They were found not in breach of their contract. They provided the service the fact that they were wrong didn't matter. The services were provided.

Commissioner Swift then inquired about flag lots, saying that the thought there were no longer allowed. Chairman Fry said that the road frontage had been changed but that they were still allowed. County Manager Marro said that there was no reason to deny a flag lot per the code. County Attorney Morton said that there were limitations to flag lots and that the road frontage had been reduced to forty feet (40').

Next, Commissioner Swift said that the response time for emergency calls to Sands Road in Molena has been as long as 45 minutes and suggested renaming the road to Depot Street.

Swift then asked about the status of the beer and wine ordinance scheduled to go into effect on November 1, 2008. County Attorney Morton said that the CATF is currently looking at this ordinance.

Lastly, Commissioner Swift asked the status of the water ordinance. County Attorney Morton said that this will be available at the next commission meeting.

**District 3**-Commissioner Powers had no report.

**District 4**-Commissioner Garner hadn't arrived at the meeting yet.

Chairman Fry had nothing to report.

**CHAIRMAN FRY CALLED FOR REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS,  
DEPARTMENT AND COMMITTEES-COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORT**

County Attorney Morton had no report tonight.

**CHAIRMAN FRY CALLED FOR UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. Donnie Bennett has requested that he be allowed to test engines at his business on Saturdays from 1:00 pm until 6:00 pm. County Attorney Morton said that this was to be just one Saturday afternoon per month, not every Saturday.

(Commissioner Garner had arrived at this time)

**MOTION**

Commissioner Powers made the motion to allow public comment. Commissioner Swift seconded the motion. 5-0 vote.

At this time, Commissioner Garner stated that there had been allegations that funds were missing from Keep Pike Beautiful. Commissioner Garner said that there was never any money missing and wanted this to go into the record.

Greg Mayo spoke on the Donnie Bennett issue. He said that he moved to Pike County for its quietness and that the go carts had a very high noise level. Mr. Mayo played a DVD showing the track and the noise level. Mayo said that this track is destroying his property value.

Debbie Landry said that she had not been aware of the previous meeting where Bennett spoke. She said that Bennett has misrepresented himself; that there was no track there before Bennett bought the property. Ms. Landry said that Mr. Bennett bought the property to build the track.

Carol Bass asked what the property is zoned. Mark Whitley said that it is zoned C-3 which allows this type of activity as part of its business use. Commissioner Swift asked about the EPD status and said that the EPD had investigated and found no violations.

Mr. Donnie Bennett stated that this is a business and that the property had been zoned C-3 before residential zoning. Mr. Bennett said that his business falls under recreational sales and service and asked how his hours could be set? Not being able to conduct business on Saturdays hurts his business. He said that he has been on that property for eight (8) years and has never drained a pond as alleged. He said that three (3) years ago, a mud bogging pit was there and that water had to be brought in for that.

Danny Hubbard stated that the track was put in last August and that the pond was dry at that time. Nothing was altered, no trash burned and that the pond had just been for runoff.

Commissioner Willis asked Mr. Bennett where had tested the engines before? Mr. Bennett said that this was a new business that he started eight (8) months ago.

Carol Bass said that C-3 is for recreational sales and services but doesn't indicate the amount noise allowed. She said that the code requires healthful, safe living.

Chairman Fry said that there were no vibration requirements until you get to industrial zoning.

County Attorney Morton said that this was not about a land issue but about the request to be allowed to do business on Saturday

#### **MOTION**

Commissioner Powers made the motion to not permit Saturday use at this time (Donnie Bennett's track). Motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Swift asked if the noise was the main issue and suggested revisiting this once a noise ordinance was completed. County Attorney Morton said that the previous action will stand which allows the testing of the engines on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1:00pm to 5:00 pm. Mr. Morton also said in reference to the noise issue that the county would need a way to test and regulate noise volumes.

B. First Reading of FY 2008 Financial Budget Resolution #1. This budget resolution was addressed at the previous meeting however it was postponed due to questions regarding the figures. Sean Townsend stated that the figures given at the previous meeting had been through the end of July but should have been through the end of June, 2008.

#### **MOTION**

Commissioner Powers made the motion to move from accounts 100 to accounts 215 in the amount of \$603,311.75. Commissioner Garner seconded the motion. 4-0 vote (Commissioner Swift was out of the room at the time of the vote).

C. Mr. Mike Betts, Building and Grounds Supervisor and three bidders on automatic door openers for fire stations to discuss the bids. Mr. Betts was unable to attend the meeting tonight so Mr. Marro made the presentation. The bids were looked at a second time because Overhead Door had itemized 24 remote door openers in their price and TC Doors and Things and McLeRoy had not. TC Doors and Things presented a new bid which included the 24 remotes. McLeRoy did not supply a new bid.

#### **MOTION**

Commissioner Swift made the motion to award the bid to TC Doors and Things on the new bid of \$8,928.00. Commissioner Garner seconded the motion for discussion purposes.

Commissioner Willis asked why the bid amount dropped from the previous bid. Mr. Marro said that the style of opener had changed. Todd Goolsby said that Mike Betts has spoken with the door manufacturer and was told that the doors were designed for the trolley type door. Chairman Fry asked if the bids can be changed after they were received.

The motion was restated and a 4-1 vote was received with Commissioner Willis opposed.

#### **MOTION**

Commissioner Powers made the motion to allow public comment. Commissioner Swift seconded the motion. 5-0 vote.

Eddie Brannon questioned why the bid wasn't done correctly from the beginning, rather than having all of these items (door windows, extra doors, door openers) added on after the fact.

D. Discussion of GA. Department of Corrections mobile construction crew doing the work for ADA compliance on Pike County buildings. County Manager Marro stated that there was a waiting list for work crews and that he was waiting for the contact at the Department of Corrections to return his phone call.

E. Discussion regarding the process of naming Pike County roads for Trooper Tony M. Lumley, Shi Holmes and Donnie Dickens. It had been determined that a previous Board had sent a resolution to the state legislature to try to get US 19 from the Spalding County line to the Upson County line named after Shi Gray Holmes. No action was taken once this request was sent to the state. It was mentioned that there would be a conflict with naming US 19 after Trooper Lumley as it had already been suggested for Shi Gray Holmes. It was suggested that Hwy 18 be named for Trooper Lumley. It was also mentioned that Hwy 109 was at one point to be named for Donnie Dickens. County Attorney said that a letter had been sent to Representative Billy Maddox pertaining to the renaming of these roads. Commissioner Swift wanted to move forward at this time only with the naming of the road for Holmes; Commissioner Powers suggested that all be done at the same time. County Attorney Morton said that it would be better to do all at the same time.

#### **MOTION**

Commissioner Powers made the motion to proceed with the renaming of the Pike County Roads: Highway 19 for Shi Gray Holmes, Highway 109 for Donnie Dickens and Hwy 18 for Trooper Lumley. Forward this request to Representative Maddox. Commissioner Garner seconded the motion. 5-0 vote.

A five minute break was taken at this time.

F. Discuss the resolution to adopt the updated CIE. County Attorney Rob Morton said that in February 2008 a resolution was adopted for the transmission of the CIE (Capital Improvements Element) to McIntosh Trail. This has been approved by the Department of Community Affairs and now a second resolution is needed showing the adoption of the CIE.

#### **MOTION**

Commissioner Willis made the motion to approve the resolution and have it adopted on the thirteenth day of August 2008. (Resolution for updated CIE). Commissioner Powers seconded the motion. 5-0 vote.

G. Karen Brown, IDA and Bill Schmid with Rochester & Associates to discuss the overlay project. Ms. Brown said that the Development Authority has been working on the overlay project in conjunction with the Board of Commissioners. Ms. Brown said that this includes the Hwy 19 North corridor from the City of Zebulon to the county line and also the 341 corridor in Pike County. The goal of the project was the development of these two areas and to determine criteria to guide future development along those two corridors. The original grant was awarded in 2006 and Pike County provided matching grant dollars. The project was awarded to Rochester and Associates in February of 2007. According to Ms. Brown, not much had been done between early 2007 until she arrived in November 2007 as Steve Marro had moved from the IDA over to the County Manager's position. Ms. Brown said that a grant extension was requested in June 2007 and a second extension was also given for the project as it is not yet completed. Ms. Brown then introduced Bill Schmid of Rochester and Associates. Mr.

Schmid said that his task was to recommend overlay district standards that were appropriate to Pike County, primarily to the commercial corridors in the county. Standards for site development, building construction, etc, were to be provided. This later expanded to include some residential considerations. Employment, commute distance, competitive advantages of the neighboring jurisdictions was considered. The overlay considerations shouldn't be too strict as to push development into adjoining jurisdictions. Mr. Schmid said that that next step is to draft the ordinance and have a rough draft to the IDA. Mr. Schmid said that there is a public input adoption process. The ordinance will go through the Planning Commission and the Board of Commissioners, and then be presented to the county attorney. To date, traffic volumes, sewer feasibility in the northeast corridor, the suitability of different widths of the overlay districts have been considered. A local preference survey was completed. The two biggest concerns were to control the access and curb cuts on Hwy 19 and Hwy 41 and also to standardize the scale and structure of signs. Mr. Schmid said that a text amendment would be initiated as provided for in the zoning ordinance. The IDA will make a formal application for a text amendment to the Planning Commission which will eventually come before the Board of Commissioners for approval. Mr. Schmid asked for indication that the Board of Commissioners is interested in continuing with this process. Mr. Schmid said that he would also like the county attorney to provide some format language similar to other zoning ordinances in Pike County.

### **MOTION**

Commissioner Swift made the motion to indicate support of the continuance of the project (Rochester & Assoc. overlay project). Commissioner Willis seconded the motion. 4-1 vote with Commissioner Garner opposed.

County Attorney Rob Morton said that he understood that the presentation given today was that Rochester and Associates was nearing completion of their work and the Board had approved this study but that no additional action had been taken by the Board. Mr. Morton said that before providing language on behalf of the Board of Commissioners, he wanted to be sure that the Board wanted to proceed with the project. The results of the study have now been presented. The Board of Commissioners is not agreeing to the overlay district because that would be contract zoning. The Board would be agreeing to move forward with the process. Mr. Morton questioned that this would be presented as a text amendment by the IDA as any citizen may present. Mr. Morton said that the Board had previously asked the CATF to review some of this but the CATF hasn't had an opportunity to do this yet. Mr. Schmid said that no formal presentation has been made to the CATF since the document hasn't been drafted yet. Mr. Schmid said that he'd be happy to follow any protocol that was requested of him. Commissioner Garner asked what the cost would be to continue this. Mr. Schmid said that it would cost under \$3,000.00. Commissioner Swift asked if the IDA had this money in their budget. Karen Brown said that the IDA would cover the \$3,000.00 fee. County Manager Marro asked if the sign ordinance had been taken into consideration with what the CATF is doing. Mr. Schmid said that he hasn't seen any drafts of work done by the CATF specific to signs. County Attorney Morton said that he hadn't seen any drafts presented by Rochester and Associates. Mr. Schmid said that he did send Mr. Morton the current draft a few weeks ago but did not send it to the CATF. Mr. Morton said that he had not received the copy. Commissioner Garner asked why this information was not sent to the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Morton said that he had an exchange about a week ago with Mr. Schmid and he suggested that this be presented today.

### **MOTION**

Commissioner Powers made the motion to allow the County Attorney's office to work on the formatting with Bill Schmid. Commissioner Willis seconded the motion. 4-1 vote with Commissioner Garner opposed.

Carol Bass said that a sign ordinance is vital to the overlay project and that she wanted to see the sign ordinance first. Commissioner Garner said that a sign ordinance was done in either 1997 or 1998. Chairman Fry said that revisions had been done after that

time. County Attorney Morton said that there were changes in the laws since that time and that the ordinance was outdated.

#### **CHAIRMAN FRY CALLED FOR NEW BUSINESS**

A. Re-write of the 'logging and/or pulping ordinance' for Pike County. County Attorney Morton said that this arose out of the Board giving Public Works Director Todd Goolsby authority to issue driveway permits. Commissioner Garner had at that time offered to give some information from Spalding County which was presented to County Manager Marro. Mr. Mark Whitley is trying to incorporate this information into Chapter 90 which includes the logging ordinance. The CATF had already reviewed Chapter 90 and made some changes so this issue is being addressed at the next CATF meeting.

B. Matt Bidwell with MSI to discuss county insurance. Mr. Matt Bidwell presented the information on several different health insurance plans for Pike County employees. United Healthcare, Aetna, Cigna, Coventry and Humana were approached for quotes. Blue Cross/Blue Shield was not part of the group being considered because the county had to wait two years to obtain insurance from them. Humana declined to present a quote as they don't have doctors in this area. The price with United Healthcare increased due to the number of claims made by Pike County employees. Mr. Bidwell said that insurance with Coventry was unobtainable for the county. The cost of prescriptions has increased with United Healthcare. Mr. Bidwell went over a comparison of the different carriers with the commissioners.

C. David Allen to discuss proposal to create four 3-way stops along Whitfield Walk in the Whitfield Subdivision to reduce speeding. Mr. Allen is the president of the Whitfield Homeowner's Association and has requested that these three-way stops be added to the subdivision. Commissioner Garner asked if the residents had a meeting on this. Mr. Allen said no meeting has been held. Mr. Allen said that he wants the speed limit enforced in the area. Chairman Fry asked if the speed limit was 35 mph or 25 mph. Mr. Allen said that it is 35 but he wants it reduced to 25. Allen stated that it isn't safe for children playing in the road. Commissioner Garner questioned why children were playing in the roads and not in the yards. Commissioner Swift asked again if this was the consensus of the group or just one person's request. Chairman Fry said that this hadn't been presented to the group yet. Chairman Fry asked if residents wouldn't have a problem with three more stops in the subdivision. Chairman Fry also suggested taking one of the vacant lots and creating a playground for the subdivision. Commissioner Powers told Mr. Allen to get the consensus of the neighborhood. Chairman Fry said to take a vote at the next homeowner's association meeting and bring it to the county manager at that time.

D. Budget Amendment #14-receipt of check for sale of equipment. Chairman Fry said that this was equipment that was sent down to Florida to be sold at auction. The check was for \$34,500 minus the cost of the sale. The budget amendment is to move the money from sale of property to the revenue account.

#### **MOTION**

Commissioner Swift made the motion to approve Budget Amendment #14 to show the sale of property to the revenue account 100-00-1500-392200-000. Commissioner Powers seconded the motion. 5-0 vote.

E. Carol Tucker, Pike County Adult Education Instructor, has requested that September 8, 2008 be designated International Literacy Day. Chairman Fry read the resolution proclaiming September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008 as International Literacy Day. A copy of that resolution will be included with these minutes.

## **MOTION**

Commissioner Willis made the motion for proclamation of International Literacy Day in Pike County. Commissioner Swift seconded the motion. 5-0 vote.

F. Todd Goolsby, Public Works Director, has suggested the relocation of the intersection of Hwy 362 and Blanton Mill Road. County Manager Marro said that when he and Mr. Goolsby met with the DOT to look at the signage and striping of Hwy 362, both men got into discussion about the intersection of Hwy 362 and Blanton Mill Road. Mr. Marro had presented the commissioners with aerial photographs of this area. This intersection is at the foot of a slight rise which causes it to be a blind intersection due to the grade. Mr. Marro said that he and Mr. Goolsby wanted to know if the Board would allow them to address with the land owner the swap of property to use for the relocation of this intersection. Mr. Goolsby said that his crew could handle this project. Mr. Marro said that he was asking for approval for the land swap and to come back with a cost estimate of the project. Commissioner Garner said that McKinley Road was still pending. Mr. Marro said that McKinley Road had been cancelled by the DOT due to inaction by Pike County. Mr. Garner said that this project had not been cancelled by the Board of Commissioners and said that he wanted this brought up again. Commissioner Garner said that this was a good idea but that it should be put after other pending projects. Mr. Marro said that he would follow up on McKinley Road (the portion from US Hwy 19 to Williamson Zebulon Road). Commissioner Garner said that he was told that the money allocated for McKinley Road had been re-allocated to another road within Pike County.

G. Discussion of taking bids for legal services. Commissioner Swift said that this idea had been brought up by the public. He also stated that if an RFP was done, it needed to be clear and concise. Commissioner Garner said that it needed to compare apples to apples. Commissioner Swift said that he hadn't been to a single meeting that County Attorney Morton hadn't been to. Mr. Morton said that County Attorney Marro and Sean Townsend had brought this up for budget purposes. Chairman Fry suggested a study of local rates be done. County Manager Marro said that if legal services are put out to bid, it can't be done for this budget.

H. Beer license application from Cadies Corner, Inc. Chairman Fry read the application from John and Stephanie Cadenhead for a beer license for Cadies Corner. The store has a current beer license but this request is due to change of ownership of the store. Chairman Fry asked if the background check had been done and Nancy Cook said that it had.

## **MOTION**

Commissioner Swift made the motion to approve application for retail license for sale of malt beverages and/or wine for Cadies Corner, Inc. Commissioner Powers seconded the motion. 5-0 vote.

I Dr. Michael Duncan, Pike County Board of Education Superintendent to speak on senior tax relief. Dr. Duncan said that the Board of Education had adopted the senior tax relief resolution that was passed on the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Duncan said that he has spoken with quite a few citizens that were concerned why this legislation didn't get passed by the general assembly. Dr. Duncan said that there is some misinformation within the community that the school board sat on this information and delayed the drafting of this local legislation to the legislative delegation. Dr. Duncan said that the timeline on the tax resolution was:

December 12, 2007 Letter was sent to Senator Chance

December 12, 2007 Letter was hand delivered to the Board of Commissioners

February 13, 2008 The resolution was emailed to the Board of Commissioners

March 5, 2008 The resolution was approved by the Board of Commissioners



March 6, 2008 Resolution was forwarded to Senator Chance. Dr. Duncan said that he is not pointing fingers as to why this legislation didn't go through. Dr. Duncan said that the time has come for the Board of Education and the Board of Commissioners to work together, saying that the discussion of this tax issue needs to be done as a joint presentation. Dr. Duncan suggested that both sides need to start from scratch. He also said that this needs to be done prior to November 1, 2008. County Attorney Morton said that any joint meeting would need to be open to the public. Morton said that public input was not required but that the meetings did need to be open to the public. Don Collins said that he thought it was time that both Boards worked together.

J. Don Collins spoke on behalf of the Pike Historic Preservation group. Mr. Collins said that there is a tenant house that has been made available and that the Pike Historic Preservation group would like to move it to the Whiskey Bonding Barn but that Pike County ordinances do not cover this. Mr. Collins is requesting permission to move and restore this old house. Chairman Fry said that there needs to be code for historic preservation. Commissioner Swift said that this should go through the regular process. County Manager Marro said that the code needs to discuss historic buildings. Mr. Collins said that this building needs to be moved soon. Mr. Mark Whitley said that this property is shown as being zoned PI. Chairman Fry said that the property was zoned AR. Mr. Whitley said that if it is zoned AR this move can be done. Chairman Fry suggested that the zoning be checked.

**CHAIRMAN FRY CALLED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT-**Jimmy Bass to discuss the tax exemption freeze. Mr. Bass said that he didn't want this to fall through the cracks like the animal control issue did with the local legislation. Mr. Bass has requested that this be presented to Representative Maddox and Senator Chance quickly. Mr. Bass said that Senator Chance's office has told him that there won't be any problem to get this passed, that it was a 'done deal' as long as the Board agrees to do it. Mr. Bass said that the Board of Education and Board of Commissioners need to work together. Mr. Bass said that the valuation freeze would affect the income of both Boards. Chairman Fry said that the value of property has nothing to do with this. Commissioner Swift asked Chairman Fry how this would not be affected. Chairman Fry said that if the property assessments doubled the budget would not be changed. Chairman Fry said that the only thing that determines how much money is taken from the taxpayers is how much is needed to run the budget. Not all of that comes from the taxpayers; some comes from S.P.L.O.S.T., impact fees, motor vehicle tag revenues, etc. Chairman Fry said that a lot of misconceptions are being passed around. The budget is created before we know what the tax digest is. Chairman Fry said that if people over a certain age get a tax exemption, everyone under that age must pay higher taxes to make up for it because you still are going to take in the same amount of taxes. Chairman Fry told Mr. Bass that the county is working on this with Senator Chance and that the Senator told him the same thing, that is won't be a problem getting it through. County Attorney Morton said that the Board of Commissioners has taken action and that Meriwether County has taken similar action and this will go to the legislature in January. Commissioner Swift asked why it wasn't in this session. Chairman Fry said that the legislature ran out of time.

**CHAIRMAN FRY CALLED FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION- PENDING LITIGATION PURSUANT TO O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1)**

**MOTION**

Commissioner Garner made the motion to exit Regular Session and enter into Executive Session for the purposes of Pending/Potential Litigation pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1) at 12:15 pm. Commissioner Powers seconded the motion. 5-0 vote.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Swift made the motion to exit Executive Session and re-enter Regular Session at 12:43 pm. Commissioner Garner seconded the motion. 5-0 vote.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Swift made the motion to amend Executive Session to include Personnel-Planning and Development and Fire Department pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(6). Commissioner Powers seconded the motion. 5-0 vote.

As a result of Executive Session:

**MOTION**

Commissioner Garner made the motion for the County Manager to follow up and let the Board know the excessive minutes used on the phone by the fire department employee and if allegations are correct, appropriate measures should be taken. Commissioner Powers seconded the motion. 5-0 vote.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Garner made the motion to adjourn at 12:46 pm. Commissioner Powers seconded the motion. 5-0 vote.

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Chairman Steve Fry  
Pike County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

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Steve Marro  
County Manager